

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-13 are pending in this case. Withdrawn Claims 14-49 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 12 and 13 are amended by the present amendment. Amended Claims 12 and 13 are supported by original claims, and therefore add no new matter.

In the outstanding Official Action, the drawings were objected to for failing to comply with 37 C.F.R. §1.84(p)(5), 37 C.F.R. §1.84(p)(4), and for informalities. The specification was objected to for informalities. Claims 1-13 were allowed.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the allowance of Claims 1-13.

With regard to the objections to the drawings, the drawings are amended to correct informalities. Specifically, Figure 1 is amended to delete the label "54." Figure 9 is amended to change the label "A" to "E" and the label "B" to "F." The description of Figure 9 in the specification is amended consistent with this change to Figure 9. Figures 3-8, 10-13, 16, 21, 22, 25, and 26 are amended to change the hatching of gap forming members 63 and 63', resin layer 62, charge roller 14', and tubes 63a, 63b, 63a1, 63a2, 63b1, and 63b2 from a metal hatching to a resin or plastic hatching, in conformance with the drawing symbols provided in MPEP §608.02. No new matter is added. Accordingly, the objections to the drawings are believed to be overcome.

With regard to the objection to the specification, the specification is amended to correct informalities. Accordingly, the objection to the specification is believed to be overcome.

Claims 12 and 13 are amended to correct an informality. No new issues are believed to be raised.

As stated above, withdrawn Claims 14-49 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Since Toshio KOIKE and Yutaka NARITA are not co-inventors of the invention recited in Claims 1-13, a Petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.48(b) is also enclosed to delete these inventors' names from the present application.

Accordingly, the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 1, 3-13, 16, 21, 22, 25, and 26. These sheets, which include Figs. 1, 3-13, 16, 21, 22, 25, and 26, replace the original sheets including Figs. 1, 3-13, 16, 21, 22, 25, and 26.

Attachment: 17 Replacement Sheets